

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-20

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FM AMEMBASSY NASSAU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5641

C O N F I D E N T I A L NASSAU 1006

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAID BF

SUBJ: CHANGE IN RESIDENT DIRECTOR BLRD PROJECT

REF: STATE 113719

1. GCOB HAS BEEN INFORMED THAT FRED MANN NOT AVAILABLE FOR POSITION AS RESIDENT DIRECTOR OF ANDROS PROJECT. AID NOMINATION OF DR. FRANK MADDEN REMAINS ON THE TABLE AND MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE KNOWS THAT MADDEN IS AVAILABLE FOR PERSONAL INTERVIEW BY MINISTER ROBERTS.

2. DIRECTOR OF AGRICULTURE CLAUDE SMITH, SPEAKING FOR HIMSELF AND FOR MINISTER ROBERTS, ADVISED DCM JUNE 4 THAT GCOB CANNOT ACCEPT TERMINATION OF DR. WORKER'S SERVICES. SMITH SAID THAT ROBERTS IS ADAMANT ON THIS POINT. FYI ROBERTS INSISTS THAT ANY REORGANIZATION OF BLRD PROJECT REFLECT EQUAL ATTENTION TO RESEARCH AND PRODUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT. HE BELIEVES FIRMLY THAT WORKER IS BEST PERSON TO OVERSEE PRODUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT ASPECTS. HIS POSITION IS THAT HE IS NOT PREPARED TO CONCUR IN THE DISMISSAL OF WORKER IN ORDER TO ASSUAGE CONTRACTORS OR TO RESOLVE PERSONALITY CONFLICT WHICH MAY HAVE ARISEN. END FYI.

3. SMITH PRESENTED ROBERTS' ALTERNATE REORGANIZATION PLAN. THERE WOULD BE A RESIDENT DIRECTOR AT THE PROJECT WHO COULD BE FROM AID. PENN STATE'S CHIEF OF PARTY WOULD REPORT TO RESIDENT DIRECTOR AS WELL AS HIS OWN AUTHORITIES. WORKER WOULD BE DESIGNATED CHIEF OF PRODUCTION AND EXTENSION AND AL ADAMS WOULD TAKE CARE OF ALL BUSINESS ASPECTS OF THE

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PROJECT. WORKER AND ADAMS ALSO WOULD REPORT TO AID RESIDENT

DIRECTOR.

4. AID AND DEPARTMENT WILL NOTE THERE IS NO PLACE IN THIS BAHAMIAN PROPOSAL FOR A TRAINING OFFICER FOR THE PROJECT. IN VIEW OF GCOB'S DISSATISFACTION WITH OUR REORGANIZATION PROPOSAL AND DECISION TO PRESENT ALTERNATIVE, EMBASSY BELIEVES BEST TO WITHHOLD DISCUSSION OF PROPOSAL FOR WIST-DESIGNATED TRAINING OFFICER UNTIL THE DECISION ON OVERALL ORGANIZATIONAL FRAMEWORK IS MADE.

5. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE GUIDANCE ON BAHAMIAN PROPOSAL. DEPARTMENT AND AID SHOULD BE AWARE THAT BAHAMIANS BELIEVE, AS INDICATED ABOVE, THAT PRESENT TURMOIL OVERPROJECT ORGANIZATION IS RESULT OF (1) PERSONALITY CONFLICT AND (2) CONTRACT ORGANIZATIONS SQUABBLE ON WHETHER ONE OR THE OTHER WILL HAVE MORE OR MORE SENIOR PEOPLE ON SITE. IF WASHINGTON'S REACTION TO BAHAMIAN PROPOSAL IS NEGATIVE, WE WILL NEED SUBSTANTIVE ARGUMENTS AGAINST IT. MINISTER ROBERTS IS MOST UNLIKELY TO BE PERSUADED BY ANY OTHERS.

SPIERS

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